

In Case of Emergency...

Local resources and numbers for Whatcom County

Whatcom County Emergency Management:

The Whatcom Division of Emergency Management is responsible for disaster and emergency planning, training, response, and recovery. They have more detailed resources and information on their website.

Office Phone: (360) 676-6681

Incident Hotline: (360) 738-4551

E-mail: wcdem@co.whatcom.wa.us

Web: www.whatcomcounty.us/dem/

Local Emergency Alert System (EAS): KGMI (AM 790)

is the primary EAS station for the Whatcom County area.

Whatcom County Sheriff: (360) 676-6650 or (360) 384-5360

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Representative
Kelli Linville

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(1) Community Relations people have been talking to Victims from Hurricane Katrina about where they can get aid. MARVIN NAUMAN/FEMA. (2) Members of Nebraska Task Force 1 set up base operations to help in rescue missions due to Katrina. JOCELYN AUGUSTINO/FEMA. (3) The Arkansas Southern Baptist relief association and the Red Cross work together to feed hot meals to evacuated residents. WIN HENDERSON/FEMA.



Are You and Your Family Prepared?

Emergency Readiness Guide

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita on our nation's Gulf Coast gives us a chance to review the readiness of our state and communities in case of an earthquake, a tsunami or other disaster. The state must make sure emergency plans are in place and viable to avoid a second emergency in the aftermath of a disaster. I will make sure the Legislature reviews those plans and ensures Washington State's readiness.

I also want to encourage everyone to prepare themselves and their families for a disaster, and this guide gives some tips and ideas.

My thoughts and prayers go out to the victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. We pull together as Americans in times of crisis, so the back page contains information on how you can help the people affected by the hurricanes.

Please feel free to call or write to help me represent you better. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Kelli Linville
State Representative, 42nd District



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Bellingham, WA 98225
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Olympia office:

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(360) 786-7854

Toll-free: 1.800.562.6000 or (hearing-impaired 1.800.635.9993)

Email: Linville.Kelli@leg.wa.gov

Web: <http://hdc.leg.wa.gov/members/linville>

Make a Plan

Preparing Your Family for Disaster

When preparing your family for disaster, prepare to be on your own for at least three days. Chances are likely that after a major disaster, traditional emergency response teams will be unable to provide immediate care to you or your family.

Emergency Supplies

- ☐ Have at least a three-day supply of food, water, clothes, medical supplies and other necessary equipment for everyone in your family. (See the “Suggested Emergency Kit Checklist” below.)
- ☐ Keep a small amount of extra cash available. If the power is out, ATM machines will not operate.
- ☐ Keep an extra pair of eyeglasses, house keys and car keys on hand.

Family Communications

- ☐ Decide where and when to reunite your family when a disaster happens.
- ☐ Choose a person outside the immediate area to contact if family members are separated. Long distance phone service will probably be restored sooner than local service. Do not use the phone immediately following a disaster.
- ☐ Make sure all family members know about your disaster plan. Also, relay this information to babysitters or others who might be in your home.
- ☐ Know the policies of the school and daycare your children attend. Make sure your child’s emergency release card is up to date. Designate others to pick up your children should you be unable to pick them up.
- ☐ If you have a family member who does not speak English, prepare an emergency card written in English with that person’s name, address and any special needs such as medication or allergies.

Home Safety

- ☐ Locate shutoff valves for water, gas, and electricity. Learn how to shut off the valves before an earthquake or other disaster.
- ☐ Conduct earthquake and fire drills every six months.
- ☐ Identify “safe spots” in each room.
- ☐ Establish all the possible ways to exit your home.
- ☐ Know the locations of the nearest fire and police stations.

Vital Information

- ☐ Make copies of your vital records and store them in a safe deposit box in another city or state. Make sure your originals are stored safely.
- ☐ Take photos and videotapes of your home and your valuables. Make copies and place them in a safe deposit box in another city or state.
- ☐ Enter emergency phone numbers into your cellphone.

Suggested Emergency Kit Checklist

- ☐ Water: 1 gallon per person per day, plus a water filtering device
- ☐ Food: non-perishable canned goods with can opener, granola bars, protein bars, “comfort” foods like cookies or hard candy
- ☐ Portable radio or Tone Alert weather radio
- ☐ Extra set of clothes with sturdy shoes
- ☐ Flashlight with extra batteries or light stick
- ☐ Waterproof matches and candles
- ☐ Multi-purpose pocket knife
- ☐ Whistle
- ☐ First Aid kit, including a three-day supply of prescription drugs, and first aid handbook
- ☐ Entertainment items like a deck of cards
- ☐ Duct tape and plastic if you need to shelter-in-place
- ☐ Cash

Put together small versions for the office, school and car. Remember, emergency supply kits should be designed to fit your needs.



(4) Hurricane Katrina Distribution area. Men from DET 1, 200th MMC Homewood AL, and Trustee’s from Mobile County Metro Jail help load ice into cars. MARVIN NAUMAN/FEMA.

Resources on the Web

Whatcom Division of Emergency Management:

www.whatcomcounty.us/dem/

**Washington State Military Department -
Emergency Management Division:**

www.emd.wa.gov

Federal Emergency Management Agency: www.fema.gov

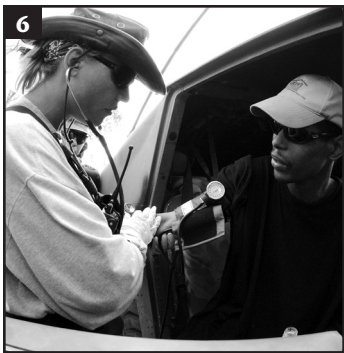
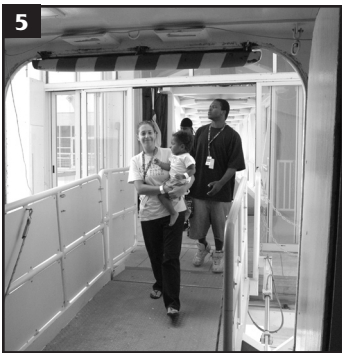
American Red Cross: www.redcross.org

How to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina

There are so many ways to help and I know each of you has considered responding in your own way. Citizens who wish to donate non-cash items can call Operation Evergreen at **1-800-941-2930**. Operation Evergreen is an effort of state, local and federal officials along with community organizations to host people in Washington who have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina. You can read more at: www.ga.wa.gov/opevergreen

Washington Cares, a fund established by the Governor, has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars. Donations are still needed to help victims of Katrina. You can find out how to contribute through Washington Cares at www.governor.wa.gov/katrina/.

If you decide to give money please make sure that you are on the look out for scams. The Secretary of State’s office has a list of registered charitable organizations: www.secstate.wa.gov/charities/search.aspx. This list also includes financial information including what percentage of funds are used for charitable programs.



(5) The Carnival “Fun Ship” is being used by FEMA to provide temporary housing to displaced residents. MARK WOLFE/FEMA. (6) Members of FEMA search and rescue check vital signs of a man found in one of the hardest hit areas from Katrina 9-18-05. JOCELYN AUGUSTINO/FEMA. (7) Paramedics tend to a Katrina victim found 9-18-05. WIN HENDERSON/FEMA.

